

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1891

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SGEN, AORG

SUBJ: NEGOTIATING GROUP ON WORLD CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S YEAR (WCIWY)

REF: STATE 126689

1. SUMMARY. BRIEF MEETING OF NEGOTIATING GROUP REVEALED NOT ONLY EXPECTED US:UK OPPOSITION TO ADOPTION AT WCIWY OF CARACAS-TYPE DECLARATION BUT ALSO SOME SERVATIONS ON PART OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. MEXICAN CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED GROUP UNTIL THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 5, IN ORDER GIVE PARTICIPANTS TIME TO OBTAIN INSTRUCTIONS. INDIAN SUGGESTION THAT SECT ATTEMPT DRAFT DECLARATION THAT WILL NOT DUPLICATE DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION AND THAT WILL BE GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE MET WITH FAVORABLE RECEPTION. SECT DID NOT RESPOND IN MEETING BUT HAS INDICATED INFORMALLY THAT THEY WILL TRY HAND AT DRAFT. SINCE SECT RESENTFUL OF MEXICAN TACTICSS AT CARACAS AND ANXIOUS AVOID POLITICIZATION AND CONSEQUENT FAILURE OF WCIWY, THIS SUGGESTION MAY PROVIDE WAY OF PREVENTING DECLARATION FROM BECOMING DESTRUCTIVE ISSUE AT CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

2. NEGOTIATING GROUP MET FOR HOUR AND HALF MONDAY MORNING JUNE 2. MEXICAN GHARGE D'AFFAIRES CARRANCO AVILA WHO  
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PRESIDED, PROPOSED THAT DISCUSSION COVER THREE ITEMS

IN FOLLOWING ORDER: TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED IN DRAFT RESES; COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE REVISIONS OF DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION; DECLARATION BASED UPON DECLARATION OF CARACAS. IN FACT, DISCUSSION RANGED BACK AND FORTH OVER THESE CLOSELY RELATED TOPICS.

3. AFTER SOME RATHER TENTATIVE OPENING STATEMENTS INDIAN PERMREP AMB RIKHI JAIPAL, INSPIRED AS WE LATER LEARNED BY MRS. BRUCE (DEPUTY TO SYG OF CONFERENCE), SUGGESTED THAT THERE SHOULD BE FOUR RESES ON FOLLOWING TOPICS: PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN POLITICAL AFFAIRS, IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, IN POPULATION, AND IN FOOD PRODUCTION. CARACAS DECLARATION COULD PROVIDE BASIS FOR DECLARATION ON ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. PREPCOM OF 7TH SPECIAL SESSION (7SS) HAD TAKEN NO ACCOUNT WHATEVER OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT WHICH WAS IN HIS VIEW "UNTHINKABLE" AND SHOULD BE RECTIFIED AT WCIWY. FINALLY, HE SUGGESTED THAT SECRETARIAT MIGHT HELP IN DRAFTING DECLARATION SO THAT IT WOULD COMPLEMENT AND NOT DUPLICATE DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION. (COMMENT: HIGHEST LEVEL INDIAN REPRESENTATION AT MEETING REFLECTS FACT THAT INDIRA GHANDI IS PRESIDENT OF INDIAN COMMISSION ON IWY AND CURRENTLY SCHEDULED ATTEND WCIWY.)

4. ASYG SIPILA AGREED THAT WCIWY PROVIDED UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO BRING WOMEN INTO ALL ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT. SHE RECALLED THAT SHE WAS AT CARACAS, THAT THERE WAS BEEN DIFFICULTY IN ADOPTING DECLARATION BECAUSE IT INCLUDED ELEMENTS THAT WERE NOT ACCEPTABLE TO ALL DELS. SHE WARNED THAT DECLARATION SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED BY ANYONE AS FINAL DOCUMENT AND THAT IT COULD BE VASTLY IMPROVED.

5. WHEN DISCUSSION TURNED TO DRAFT PLAN, US REP (AMBASSADOR WHITE) OPPOSED OPENING UP IN SMALLER GROUP DOCUMENT WHICH HAD BEEN CAREFULLY WORKED OUT BY CONSULTATIVE COMITE. SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION SOON REVEALED PROBLEMS THIS WOULD RAISE. SOVIETS WANTED TO STRENGTHEN DISARMAMENT PROVISIONS OF DRAFT; UK CONVERSELY WANTED TO ACCORD THEM LESS EMPHASIS. CHINESE THEN WEIGHED IN, STATING EMPHATICALLY THAT DISARMAMENT SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED BECAUSE IT WAS IRRELEVANT, CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTROVERSIAL AND WOULD DIVERT CONFERENCE FROM ITS PURPOSES. PLAN IN CHINESE VIEW SHOULD REFLECT FACT THAT COLONIALISM, IMPERIALISM AND HEGEMONISM WERE THE BASIC CAUSES OF LOW STATUS OF WOMEN IN SOME PARTS OF WORLD, AND STRUGGLE OF WOMEN, ESPECIALLY THIRD WORLD WOMEN AGAINST THESE THREE ISMS, WAS ESSENTIAL TO THEIR EMANCIPATION. AFTER GENERAL STATEMENTS BY AUSTRALIA AND GDR BRAZILIAN REP INQUIRED OF CHAIRMAN WHETHER GROUP WAS GOING TO DRAFT DECLARATION OR NOT.

CHAIRMAN EXPLAINED THAT REPS WERE MAKING COMMENTS THAT WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT LATER ON IN NEGOTIATIONS.

6. WHEN MEETING TURNED TO DRAFT DECLARATION, UK REP (MACRAE) QUESTIONED NEED FOR IT AND THOUGHT IT LED TO UNDESIRABLE DUPLICATION OF EFFORT. HE PREFERRED TO SEE THOSE EFFORTS CONCENTRATED ON DRAFT PLAN WHICH NOT ONLY EMBRACED MUCH OF DECLARATION, BUT ALSO PLANS OF ACTION PRODUCED AT REGIONAL SEMINARS. HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT INDIAN SUGGESTION WAS USEFUL.

7. EGYPTIAN THEN NOTED THAT "LARGER GROUP" WAS STUDYING DECLARATION ALONG WITH RESULTS OF REGIONAL SEMINARS. HE ALSO THOUGHT THE AFRICAN GROUP WAS MEETING ON THE SAME SUBJECT IN KINSHASA.

8. US SUPPORTED UK'S EXPRESSION OF DOUBT REGARDING NEED FOR DECLARATION, CITED ASYG SIPILA'S NEGATIVE COMMENTS ABOUT IT, AND RECALLED THAT US HAD RECORDED VERY SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ON IT. US NOTED, TOO, THAT OTHER REGIONAL SEMINARS ON WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT HAS PRODUCED DRAFT REGIONAL PLANS OF ACTION WHEREAS ECLA SEMINAR HAD PRODUCED ONLY DECLARATION.

9. DISCUSSION REVEALED UNCERTAINTY AS TO AFRICAN POSITION AND AS TO WHERE AFRICANS WERE GOING TO MEET IN ORDER TO CONCERT IT. IRAN HAD HEARD THAT ZAIRE HAS INVITED THEM TO MEET IN KINSHASA FOR THAT PURPOSE, BUT HAD ALSO HEARD FROM IVORY COAST DEL THAT AFRICANS WERE PREPARING THEIR OWN DECLARATION. SIPILA COMMENTED THAT WHATEVER MEETING WAS TAKING PLACE IN ZAIRE WAS NOT UNDER UN AUSPICES.

10. IN ABSENCE FURTHER COMMENTS CARRANCO SUGGESTED THAT SINCE MANY DELS HAD NOT HAD TIME TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS, IT MIGHT BE BEST TO POSTPONE NEXT MEETING OF NEGOTIATING  
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GROUP TO THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 5.

11. COMMENT. MEETING, WHILE BRIEF AND GENERAL, REVEALED THAT THIRD WORLD DELS REPRESENTED WERE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT CARACAS DECLARATION IN ITS PRESENT FORM, ALTHOUGH PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE IDEA IN PRINCIPLE. KNOWLEDGEABLE SECT OFFICIAL STATES THAT MEXICAN PRESSURE TACTICS IN CARACAS CARRIED OVER HERE IN NEW YORK ARE CAUSING RESENTMENT AMONG SOME THIRD WORLD MISSIONS AND THAT MISOFFS SHE HAS TALKED TO ARE RESPONSIVE TO HER WARNING THAT EMPHASIS UPON CERDS AND NIEO RATHER THAN ON ISSUES OF INTEREST PRIMARILY TO WOMEN WILL POLITICIZE CONFERENCE AND DESTROY CHANCES OF SUCCESS. CERTAINLY, ASYG SIPILA'S NEGATIVE COMMENTS ON DECLARATION REFLECTED HER IRRITATION WITH MEXICAN TACTICS, FACT CONFIRMED BY ABOVE SOURCE. UNDER THESE CIR-

CUMSTANCES INDIAN SUGGESTION THAT SECY TRY TO DRAFT  
DECLARATION THAT WILL FIND GENERAL SUPPORT AND THAT WILL NOT  
DUPLICATE DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION MAY WELL OFFER WAY OF PREVENTING  
DECLARATION FROM BECOMING DEVISIVE AND DESTRUCTIVE ISSUE  
AT WCIWY. SECT DID NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUGGESTION IN MEETING  
BUT HAS TOLD US INFORMALLY THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO PREPARE  
DRAFT.  
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